

Message Text

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-13 SP-02 CAB-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5484
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 7338

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, GH
SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF BONN SUMMIT HI-JACKING DECLARATION:
GHANA

REF: STATE 212172

1. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE SEVEN MISSIONS OF GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT THE BONN SUMMIT, LED BY THE FRG CHARGE, CALLED SEPTEMBER 4 ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER FELLI TO DELIVER FIRST PERSON NOTE FROM FRG URGING FORMAL GOG SUPPORT FOR THE OBJECTIVES OF THE DECLARATION AND TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT GOG WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF ITS SUPPORT. NOTE INCLUDED FULL TEXT OF BONN DECLARATION.

2. COMMISSIONER FELLI MADE NO FIRM COMMITMENT CONCERNING THE GOG RESPONSE, EXCEPT TO SAY IT WOULD BE COMMUNICATED IN DUE COURSE. HOWEVER, THE COMMISSIONER EMPHASIZED THAT GHANA HAD SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL ACTION AGAINST TERRORISM AND AERIAL HI-JACKING IN A NUMBER OF RECENT ACTIONS AND THAT SUPPORT FOR THE BONN DECLARATION WOULD BE IN LINE WITH THAT POLICY. THE COMMISSIONER NOTED THAT GHANA (1) HAD, PRIOR TO THE BONN DECLARATION, CONFIDENTIAL

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WRITTEN TO SOME 30 AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO SOLICIT THEIR SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURES IN LINE WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE BONN DECLARATION: (2) WAS SERVING ON A UN BODY CONCERNED WITH COMBATING TERRORISM: AND (3) EMPLOYED ARMED GUARDS ON GHANA AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS. COMMISSIONER FELLI DID NOT OFFER ANY CONCRETE DETAILS CONCERNING THE COMMUNICATION TO 30 AFRICAN

GOVERNMENTS, BUT DID SAY THAT 9 RESPONSES HAD BEEN RECEIVED THUS FAR.

3. COMMENT: COMMISSIONER FELLI SEEMED ALMOST TO BE DOWN PLAYING THE NEED FOR SUCH AN APPROACH TO GHANA, GIVEN ITS RECORD IN THIS AREA. WHILE WE ARE CONFIDENT WE WILL GET SOME POSITIVE RESPONSE BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE, WE ARE FAR LESS SURE THE GOG WILL ISSUE A PUBLIC STATEMENT. THE FRG CHARGE IS TO FOLLOW UP WITH INDIVIDUAL CALLS ON THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND, IN LINE WITH PARA 2, REFTTEL, AMBASSADOR WILL SEEK SIMILAR OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE OUR OWN CONCERNS KNOWN DIRECTLY TO RELEVANT GOG OFFICIALS.
SMITH

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NNN

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